

REMARKS

In an Official Action dated October 3, 2006 , the Examiner rejected the pending claims as anticipated or obvious over a number of references. Applicants request that the Examiner reconsider the rejection in light of the following discussion.

As previously discussed with the Examiner, Muellenberg 5,067,847 discloses a device that operates differently than the device disclosed in the application. Although Applicant believes that the claims as previously presented distinguish Applicant's device from the devices in the cited references, the claims have been further amended to further recite some of the distinguishing features.

For instance, as discussed with the Examiner, the device in Mullenberg does not operate such that turning the nut in a first direction causes the minor diameter of the outer sleeve to be displaced toward the major diameter of the inner sleeve to tighten the device and such that turning the nut in a second direction causes the minor diameter of the outer sleeve to be displaced away from the major diameter of the inner sleeve to loosen the device.

Accordingly, in light of the amendments to the claims, Applicant requests that the Examiner reconsider the rejection of claims 1 and 9 as anticipated by or obvious in light of Muellenberg.

Further, claim 24 has been amended to further recite the differences between Applicant's device and the device in Soussloff 4,600,334. For instance, Soussloss incorporates a device having an outer sleeve, and intermediate sleeve and an internal sleeve. Claim 24 has been amended to recite that the outer sleeve engages the machine element and the outer sleeve directly engages the inner sleeve. Claim 24 further recites that rotating the nut in a first direction causes the nut to displace the outer sleeve rearwardly relative to the machine element to tighten the device, and

rotating the nut in a second direction causes the nut to displace the outer sleeve forwardly relative to the machine element to loosen the device. In contrast, the device in Soussloff does not have a nut that engages the outer sleeve; rather the nut engages the intermediate sleeve, which does not engage the machine element.

In light of the foregoing, Applicant believes that this application is in form for allowance. The Examiner is encouraged to contact Applicant's undersigned attorney if the Examiner believes that issues remain regarding the allowability of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

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By


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FEE TRANSMITTAL

Complete if known

Application Number: 10/693,195

Filing Date: October 24, 2003

First Named Inventor: Geib

Group Art Unit: 3679

Examiner Name: Garcia, Ernesto

Total Amt. of Payment: (1)+(2)+(3)= **\$1,120**

Attorney Docket Number: 0241-P03282US0

METHOD OF PAYMENT (check one)

1. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to:

☐ Charge indicated fees

☒ Charge additional fees

☒ Credit overpayments

to the account of DANN, DORFMAN, HERRELL & SKILLMAN

Deposit Account Number 04-1406

2. Payment enclosed:

Check in the amount of **\$1,120**

FEE CALCULATION

1. FILING FEE

Fee

Fee Description

Utility filing fee

Design filing fee

Plant filing fee

Reissue filing fee

SUBTOTAL (1) **\$0**

FEE CALCULATION (continued)

ADDITIONAL FEES

Fee Description

Fee Paid

Surcharge-late filing fee or oath

Surcharge - late provisional filing fee or cover sheet

Extension for response within third month

1020

Notice of Appeal

Filing a brief in support of an appeal

Request for oral hearing

Petition to revive unavoidably abandoned appl.

Petition to revive unintentionally abandoned appl.

Issue fee

Petitions to the Commissioner

Petitions related to provisional applications

Submission of Information Disclosure Stmt.

Recording each patent assignment per property

Other fee (specify) _____

SUBTOTAL (3) **\$1,020**

2. Claims

Paid

Extra

Fee

Total Claims 26 -24 = 2 x 50 = 100

Independent Claims 3 -3 = 0 x 200 = 0

Multiple Dependent

(First presentation)

SUBTOTAL (2) **\$100**

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Submitted By: Stephen H. Eland

Reg. Number 41,010

Signature

Date April 3, 2007

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